

application) and U.S. Patent No. 4,351,490 (cited in the Office Action) both address this problem with the provision of an interfacing non-similar material. In the '112 patent, screw thread of one of the components is provided with a ribbon of inset dissimilar material. In the '490 patent, a liner is provided between the screw threads.

Applicant's solution is distinguished from the above patents by providing the entire screw thread of one of the components (bowl or bowl support) as an insert. That component is initially configured to have its opposing face non-engaging (inset or outset) relative to the face of the opposing component. A ribbon of material that forms the entire screw thread is seated, e.g., in thread-like grooves of that face so that the screw thread portion of the insert only extends outwardly of said component and into engagement with the screw threads of the other component. Ease of assembly and wearability are greatly enhanced over the cited art and accordingly Claims 1-6 and 11 are believed allowable.

The invention of Claim 7 is the replacement of multiple hydraulic thread locks such as locks 189 illustrated in Fig. 1 of the '390 patent with a single annular piston. The present invention provides a singular annular piston within a continuous annular chamber whereby a single chamber pressurization produces an evenly applied pressure surrounding the annular thread. Such has been emphasized by the amendment to Claim 7 and accordingly Claim



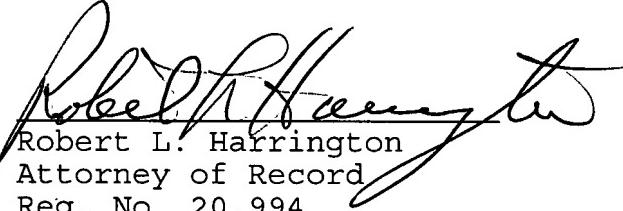
7 and dependent Claims 8-10 are believed allowable.

Favorable action is respectfully requested.

5

Respectfully submitted,

10


Robert L. Harrington
Attorney of Record
Reg. No. 20,994

15

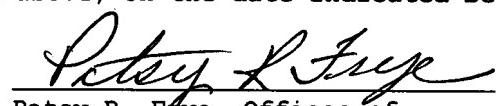
CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

20

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed as indicated above, on the date indicated below.

25

Date 11-17-99


Patsy R. Faye, Offices of
Robert L. Harrington
Attorney of Record
Reg. No. 20,994